

Sept. 15, 1926.

DT/Sipel, Gibson

was met by a bunch of reporters who demanded to know what he knew concerning the case. He said that he knew absolutely nothing and they showed him the item in the paper, which he afterwards found out that his wife has put in the paper, and he refused to have anything to say to the reporters, and he went on home and told his wife that in view of the fact that she "had made soup she could drink it," and he went on up to his room and left his wife to face the newspaper men. The following morning he got up and left the farm and went to his sister-in-law in Newark where he remained for a couple of days, but was prevailed upon to return to his home, at which time he was subpoenaed to appear before the Grand Jury, which he did, and gave his story from start to finish.

In the latter half of the story which I repeated, and which I have above set forth, I told Mr. Sipel, in Mr. Watson's presence, that if I made a mistake in repeating it, he should correct me, and he agreed that in substance this was his version of what had happened. Last evening he also told Mr. Watson and myself the great efforts to which the prosecution had gone in an effort to intimidate him, and to cause him to change his story. That they had accused him of having received money from Mrs. Hall or her representatives, which had induced him to tell the story which he had related to the Grand Jury. He further states that just before this investigation was to be renewed, that an automobile containing a number of men drove out to his farm one day and asked for Mr. Sipel. They informed him that they were from the Burns Detective Agency, and that a Mr. De Martine had forged a number of checks and had obtained money, under false pretenses, and they wanted to know how much money De Martina had given him. They also said that a check had gone through the bank for \$5000, signed by Sipel, and they wanted to know just how much of that \$5000 Sipel had gotten from Mrs. Hall, and how much Mrs. Hall had transferred to De Martina. Sipel denied that he had ever received anything from De Martina or Mrs. Hall, and that he did not communicate with Mrs. Hall, or with any one representing her, prior to the time that he testified before the Grand Jury. They had Sipel and his wife at Somerville, placed them in different rooms, and used the third degree method on them, first telling Sipel that his wife had already told of the transaction, and then telling Mrs. Sipel that Sipel had told something contrary. They kept this up on one occasion for at least five hours.

Respectfully submitted:

D. T.